

# HOOD CANAL BRIDGE NEWS



West-Half Retrofit and East-Half Replacement Project

April 2004

## PA's graving dock project goes back to work

*Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, state and federal agencies agree to archeology plan for harbor site*

Archeological excavation resumes this month at the Port Angeles Harbor shoreline after officials from the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Federal Highway Administration, US Army Corps of Engineers, Washington State Historic Preservation Office and the Washington State Department of Transportation signed a memorandum of agreement March 16.

The agreement outlines the specific archeological treatment for the 22-acre site, future home to a large on-shore dry dock-like facility where anchors and pontoons for the Hood Canal Bridge will be built. The \$17 million graving dock project was halted in August after construction work revealed cultural resources.

U.S. Representative Norm Dicks, who worked with the Tribe, transportation officials and community leaders to resolve all issues at the graving dock site, said he was encouraged by the success of the efforts. "I am particularly pleased that all of the parties involved in this agreement worked hard to find a solution that helps to preserve the cultural heritage of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe and which moves the graving yard

project forward, assuring the timely replacement of the Hood Canal Bridge."

Tribal chairman Dennis R. (Sully) Sullivan stated he was pleased to have reached agreement and that he thanked the community of Port Angeles, all the governing officials of the city and the county and for the Letter Statement to the Community signed Novem-

ber 5, 2003 by State legislators Jim Hargrove, Lynn Kessler, and Jim Buck; Clallam County Commissioners Steve Tharinger, Michael Doherty and Michael Chapman; the Port Angeles City Council retired Mayor Glen Wiggins, Deputy Mayor Orville Campbell, Council members Larry Williams, Lauren

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### Drainage system install continues

**Work to install a surface water treatment system at the Hood Canal Bridge graving dock site on the Port Angeles Harbor continues (right).**

**According to Ron Lewis, WSDOT project manager, the drainage system should be substantially complete within the next month. Lewis said constructing surface water retention ponds will make up most of the effort still remaining for the drainage system.**



#### **Hood Canal Bridge News**

is prepared monthly by the WSDOT as a service to those interested in the Hood Canal Bridge retrofit and replacement project.

Traffic information Hood Canal Bridge:  
1-800-419-9085.

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If you have any comments on **Hood Canal Bridge News** or would like more information contact Lloyd Brown, communication manager, at (360) 357-2789 or via E-mail: [brownl@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:brownl@wsdot.wa.gov).

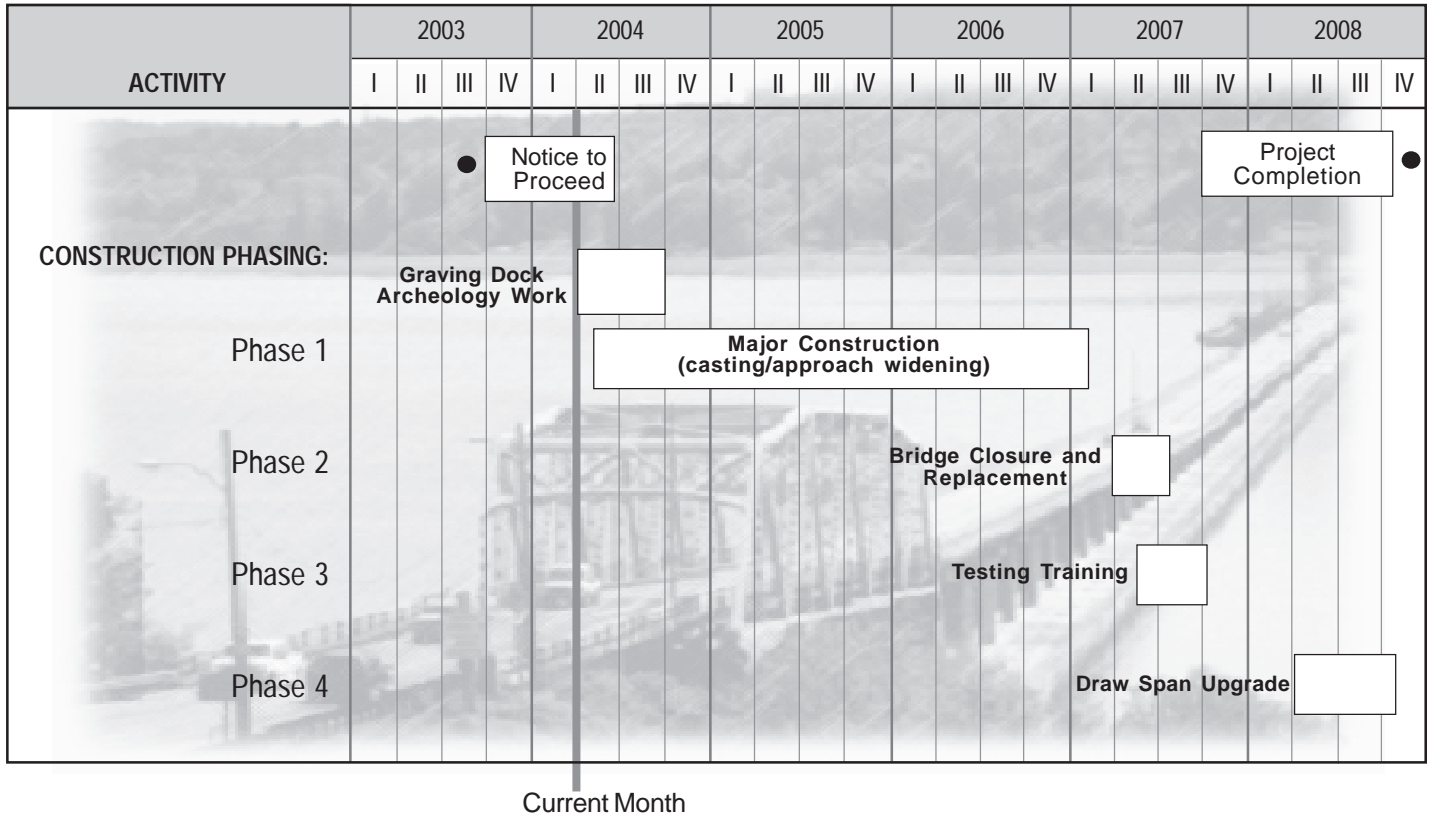
## WSDOT buys Port of PA site for dock

The Washington State Department of Transportation will pay \$4.7 million to purchase nearly 20.06 acres at the Port of Port Angeles to build the concrete graving dock facility, WSDOT and Port of Port Angeles officials announced March 22.

In January 2003, the WSDOT and the Port of Port Angeles approved a possession and use agreement for the site that allowed the project to move forward while long-term lease and purchase negotiations took place.

The Port and WSDOT have been negotiating the property's purchase price for more than 14 months, evaluating several proposals.

"I am very impressed with the professionalism both the Port and WSDOT displayed – not just in these discussions, but also in coordinating the construction project at the graving dock site," said Randy Hain, Olympic Region administrator.



## Dock

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Erickson, Gary Braun, newly appointed Mayor Richard Hedrick, and Karen Rogers; and the Port of Port Angeles Commissioners Leonard Beil, William Hannan and Glenn Beckman.

Chairman Sullivan said, "The support the tribe received by all those who shared their concerns will not be forgotten. I am pleased for the project but will always carry a heavy heart for our tribal members who must witness the loss of our Ancestors' village and what they believed would be their final resting place. The tribe prays that no other Native American Nation ever be faced with having to make decisions as emotional and stressful as this has been on our tribal community. I thank our tribal councilmembers, tribal attorney and all tribal staff who have dedicated themselves on behalf of the Lower Elwha Klallam community."

Doug MacDonald, Transportation Secretary, was also pleased to move forward. "We thank the community for its support and understanding as all sides in the con-

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sultation process worked toward restarting the graving dock project," said MacDonald. "It was important to work an agreement that allowed the pontoon work to move ahead while also honoring the Tribe's concern for its cultural resources."

Archeologists, under the watchful eye of Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe representatives, will spend the next four months recovering data from the graving dock site.

While some construction may take place concurrently, the main graving dock of

construction effort will not resume until after the archeological activities are completed this summer.

WSDOT signed a \$204 million contract with Kiewit-General of Poulsbo in July 2003

to replace the Hood Canal Bridge's east half and retrofit its west half.

"The planned eight-week bridge closure that will allow for the installation of the new bridge east half will take place in May 2007," said Randy Hain, Region Administrator. "We want bridge users and the business community to have as much notice as possible to plan for the upcoming bridge closure."

The archeological work at the site is estimated to cost \$4.5 million. WSDOT officials will under agreement pay the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe \$3.4 million for mitigation costs. Transportation officials will begin immediately negotiating with Kiewit-General to determine the full cost of adjusting the project's overall schedule.

Contact: Lloyd Brown, communication manager, at (360) 357-2789.

### Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

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- Randy Hain,  
WSDOT Olympic  
Region Administrator